

JEFFORDS. With the support of the leadership, and the support of the appropriate committee chairmen, I believe there is a basis for optimism that such overdue reforms will be passed by the Senate.

Mr. ROTH. Mr. President, Today, I am proud to join the Republican pension task force chaired by Senator GREGG to introduce the Women's Investment and Savings Equity Act of 1997, known as the Wise bill. I want to commend Senator GREGG for his leadership of the Republican pension task force and his hard work in putting this bill together.

Of the 63 million baby boomers in America, a full 32 million of them are saving less than one-third of what they will need for retirement. This concerns me. It concerns me even further that the overwhelming majority of these Americans, unprepared for retirement, are women. According to the Census Bureau, retired women are almost twice as likely as men to live in poverty. The poverty rate for elderly single women is about four times greater than the rate for those who are married.

I consider the Wise bill one of the beginning steps toward creating an environment where Americans can work for self-reliance and a secure future. It will go a long way toward establishing equity in the Tax Code for stay-at-home parents who want to save for their retirement years. And while it's called the women's investment and savings equity bill—because the majority of those who will benefit are women—it covers both mothers and fathers, whichever serves as homemaker.

The Wise bill of 1997 will allow homemakers and other workers without a pension plan to make a full \$2,000 tax-deductible IRA contribution each year, regardless of their spouse's pension plan. In addition, parents who take maternity or paternity leave will be allowed to make catch-up payments to their retirement plans after they return to work. Even homemakers who return to employment after an extended absence, and working parents who cannot afford pension contributions while raising children, will be able to catch-up for the years they were raising children.

This bill is an important first step of a larger retirement savings and security expansion bill by the Republican pension task force. It will give families the tools for a secure retirement.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 65

At the request of Mr. HATCH, the name of the Senator from North Carolina [Mr. FAIRCLOTH] was added as a cosponsor of S. 65, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to ensure that members of tax-exempt organizations are notified of the portion of their dues used for political and lobbying activities, and for other purposes.

S. 293

At the request of Mr. HATCH, the names of the Senator from Massachusetts [Mr. KENNEDY], the Senator from Oregon [Mr. WYDEN], and the Senator from Iowa [Mr. HARKIN] were added as cosponsors of S. 293, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to make permanent the credit for clinical testing expenses for certain drugs for rare diseases or conditions.

S. 295

At the request of Mr. JEFFORDS, the name of the Senator from Utah [Mr. BENNETT] was added as a cosponsor of S. 295, a bill to amend the National Labor Relations Act to allow labor management cooperative efforts that improve economic competitiveness in the United States to continue to thrive, and for other purposes.

S. 304

At the request of Mr. DORGAN, the name of the Senator from South Dakota [Mr. JOHNSON] was added as a cosponsor of S. 304, a bill to clarify Federal law with respect to assisted suicide, and for other purposes.

S. 328

At the request of Mr. HUTCHINSON, the name of the Senator from Tennessee [Mr. FRIST] was added as a cosponsor of S. 328, a bill to amend the National Labor Relations Act to protect employer rights, and for other purposes.

S. 387

At the request of Mr. HATCH, the name of the Senator from Connecticut [Mr. DODD] was added as a cosponsor of S. 387, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide equity to exports of software.

S. 405

At the request of Mr. HATCH, the name of the Senator from Illinois [Mr. DURBIN] was added as a cosponsor of S. 405, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to permanently extend the research credit and to allow greater opportunity to elect the alternative incremental credit.

S. 415

At the request of Mr. BAUCUS, the name of the Senator from South Carolina [Mr. HOLLINGS] was added as a cosponsor of S. 415, a bill to amend the medicare program under title XVIII of the Social Security Act to improve rural health services, and for other purposes.

S. 419

At the request of Mr. BOND, the name of the Senator from Ohio [Mr. GLENN] was added as a cosponsor of S. 419, a bill to provide surveillance, research, and services aimed at prevention of birth defects, and for other purposes.

S. 438

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the names of the Senator from Michigan [Mr. ABRAHAM], the Senator from Arkansas [Mr. HUTCHINSON], and the Senator from Arizona [Mr. KYL] were added as cosponsors of S. 438, a bill to provide for implementation of prohibi-

tions against payment of social security benefits to prisoners, and for other purposes.

S. 495

At the request of Mr. KYL, the names of the Senator from Missouri [Mr. ASHCROFT], the Senator from Michigan [Mr. ABRAHAM], and the Senator from Kansas [Mr. BROWNBACK] were added as cosponsors of S. 495, a bill to provide criminal and civil penalties for the unlawful acquisition, transfer, or use of any chemical weapon or biological weapon, and to reduce the threat of acts of terrorism or armed aggression involving the use of any such weapon against the United States, its citizens, or Armed Forces, or those of any allied country, and for other purposes.

S. 575

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from Illinois [Ms. MOSELEY-BRAUN] was added as a cosponsor of S. 575, A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to increase the deduction for health insurance costs of self-employed individuals.

At the request of Mr. HAGEL, the names of the Senator from Wyoming [Mr. ENZI], the Senator from Kansas [Mr. BROWNBACK], the Senator from Arkansas [Mr. HUTCHINSON], and the Senator from Alabama [Mr. SESSIONS] were added as cosponsors of S. 575, *supra*.

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 6

At the request of Mr. KYL, the names of the Senator from New Jersey [Mr. TORRICELLI], the Senator from Nevada [Mr. REID], the Senator from Georgia [Mr. CLELAND], and the Senator from Florida [Mr. MACK] were added as cosponsors of Senate Joint Resolution 6, a joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States to protect the rights of crime victims.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 13

At the request of Mr. SESSIONS, the names of the Senator from Mississippi [Mr. LOTT], and the Senator from Oklahoma [Mr. NICKLES] were added as cosponsors of Senate Concurrent Resolution 13, A concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress regarding the display of the Ten Commandments by Judge Roy S. Moore, a judge on the circuit court of the State of Alabama.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 22—RELATIVE TO THE STATUE OF ROGER WILLIAMS

Mr. CHAFEE (for himself and Mr. REED) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Rules and Administration:

S. CON. RES. 22

Whereas Roger Williams was the primary architect of the lively experiment of church-state separation as the necessary corollary of religious liberty;

Whereas Roger Williams was an ardent advocate of the legal rights of Native Americans, maintained a close friendship with them and purchased land from them;